

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A flexible fluid containment vessel for the transportation and/or containment of cargo comprising a fluid or fluidisable material, said vessel comprising:
an elongated flexible tubular structure comprised of fabric having a first side and
a second side;
said tubular structure being impervious and having a front end and a rear end;
means for sealing said front end and said rear end;
means for filling and emptying said vessel of cargo; and
means for rendering said tubular structure ~~impervious and/or~~ buoyant comprising
forming said fabric having a at least one thermoplastic or thermoset coating that renders the
fabric ~~both impervious and/or~~ buoyant.

2. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said fabric is woven and ~~has a~~ said first and second side ~~sides are~~ formed by stitching points.

3. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said fabric is formed out of yarns, and said at least one ~~having a~~ thermoplastic coating ~~which~~ is subject to heat, pressure or both to cause it to flow and fill the voids in said fabric.

4. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein a first thermoplastic coating is on a said first side of the fabric and a said second thermoplastic coating is on a second side of the fabric with said first thermoplastic coating being different from said

second thermoplastic coating with said coatings being taken from the group consisting essentially of urethane, polyester, polyamide, polyvinyl chloride, polyolefin or other suitable thermoplastic material.

5. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said means for rendering said tubular structure ~~impervious and~~ buoyant comprises coating one or both sides said fabric with a coating having microspheres therein in a sufficient amount that the overall density of the coated fabric is less than approximately 1.0 g/cm^3 .

6. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 5 wherein said coating is taken from the group consisting essentially of: polyvinyl chloride, polyurethanes, synthetic and natural rubbers, polyureas, polyolefins, silicone polymers, acrylic polymers or foam derivatives thereof.

7. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 5 wherein said coating is a thermoplastic or thermoset material.

8. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said means for rendering said tubular structure ~~impervious and~~ buoyant comprises coating one or both sides said fabric with a coating having a gas or entrained air in the coating such that the gas or air is trapped within the coating in sufficient amount that the overall density of the coated fabric is less than approximately 1.0 g/cm^3 .

9. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 8 wherein the coating is applied to the fabric by spraying or in the form of a foam.
10. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 8 wherein said coating is taken from the group consisting essentially of: polyvinyl chloride, polyurethanes, synthetic and natural rubbers, polyureas, polyolefins, silicone polymers, acrylic polymers or foam derivatives thereof.
11. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 10 wherein said coating is a thermoplastic or thermoset material.
12. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein the fabric includes fibers or yarns made from material consisting essentially of ultra high molecular weight polyethylene, or polyolefins; and the means for rendering said tubular structure ~~impervious and~~ buoyant comprises coating said fabric with a polyurethane material.
13. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 12 wherein said coating is a thermoset polyurethane coating.